

MINUTES OF THE POTTSTOWN METROPOLITAN
REGIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEE
MEETING OF DECEMBER 2, 2010
(Approved February 23, 2011)

The Pottstown Metropolitan Regional Planning Committee held their monthly meeting on December 2, 2010. Attending the meeting were Andy Paravis, North Coventry Township; Steve Toroney and Joseph Kirkland, Pottstown Borough; Alyson Elliott, Lower Pottsgrove Township; Renee Spaide and Elwood Taylor, Upper Pottsgrove Township; Timothy Roland and Lance Parson, East Coventry Township; and Gordon Whitlock of West Pottsgrove Township.

Teri Lampe of Pottstown School District was present.

John Cover – Montgomery County Planning Commission
Darlene Wynne – Montgomery County Planning Commission

Bonnie L. Frisco – Recording Secretary

1. Welcome and Meeting Called to order.

Mr. Toroney called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Mr. Toroney did a roll call. Douglass Township and New Hanover Township are not represented this evening.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

4. Review of October 27, 2010 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Roland moved to approve the October 27, 2010 meeting minutes as presented. Ms. Spaide seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

5. Treasurer's Report

Ms. Spaide moved to approve the Treasurer's Report for December with balances of \$85,521.31. Mr. Whitlock seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

6. Northwest Montgomery County Strategic Transit Plan

Representatives of Leo Bagley's (of the Montgomery County Planning Commission) office were present to provide a presentation of the Northwest Montgomery County Strategic Transit Plan.

Items covered but not limited to were:

- The problem
- Purpose of the study
- Study area
- Whose study is it?
- Key determination
- The cost of transit

- The process
- A conservative approach
- Step 1 – Establish expectations
- Step 2 – Demographics and understanding the study area
- Step 3 – Devise transit route
 - Start with possibilities – 13 transit service concepts
 - Narrow down to two most promising
 - Two potentially feasible routes: Pennsburg to Pottstown and East Greenville to Emmaus
- Step 4 – Analyze the top two transit service concepts
- Summary Plan
- A good strategic plan
- A starting point for conversation
- Next Steps
 - Discuss with SEPTA, PART and LANTA
 - Discuss with the municipalities and business leaders
 - Discuss further service planning
- The Northwest Montgomery County Strategic Transit Plan may be found at www.planning.montcopa.org/NWTransitPlan

Mr. Taylor asked if the offset from the cost of fares was taken into account and the response was that they had been taken into account and the cost to municipalities for public transportation would be over and beyond what is collected for fares. The potential of using outside contracted services for transportation was discussed.

7. 2011 Meeting Schedule & Location

It was agreed that the meeting location will be at Pottstown Borough Hall for next year.

Mr. Paravis moved to set the 2011 meeting schedule, meetings will be held every fourth Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. (January through October) and a meeting will be held the first Thursday in December at 7:00 p.m. and the meetings will be held at Pottstown Borough Hall. Mr. Whitlock seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

8. Open Space Maintenance Support Letter (Upper Pottsgrove)

Mr. Paravis moved to approve the open space maintenance support letter as presented. Mr. Roland seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

9. Consistency Review: Route 100 Corridor Overlay District (Upper Pottsgrove)

An overlay district in Upper Pottsgrove is proposed. The current zoning is R-2 Residential and a commercial overlay district is proposed. The area is just north of Upland Square. This change would permit a variety of non-residential uses.

Mr. Whitlock moved to approve the proposed Route 100 Corridor Overlay District. Mr. Paravis seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

10. Market Assessment and Fiscal Impact Study RFP

Invoice

There was a discussion regarding an invoice for the \$20,000 that will be paid by the PMRPC.

Mr. Whitlock moved to forward the invoice for \$20,000 to the DVRPC. Mr. Paravis seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Market Assessment and Fiscal Impact Study RFP

There was a review of the Market Assessment and Fiscal Impact Study RFP. The group agreed to allow the County to shortlist the consultants and the PMPRC will have fourth meetings to discuss the Market Assessment project and handle selection of the consultant.

Mr. Whitlock moved to move ahead with the RFP for the Market Assessment and Fiscal Impact Study. Mr. Paravis seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

11. Municipal Updates

Douglass Township

No one from Douglass Township was present.

East Coventry Township

Mr. Roland noted that the open space referendum in East Coventry Township passed and an ordinance is being formulated. Mr. Roland asked the other townships if they had a sunset clause in their open space referendum ordinance and they noted they did not.

Lower Pottsgrove Township

Ms. Elliott stated that Lower Pottsgrove is dealing with two billboard zoning issues. Ms. Elliott stated that Lower Pottsgrove is amending their fee schedule.

New Hanover Township

No one from New Hanover Township was present.

North Coventry Township

Mr. Paravis stated there is nothing new to report for North Coventry Township.

Pottstown Borough

Mr. Toroney noted that Pottstown Borough is updating their zoning.

Upper Pottsgrove Township

Mr. Taylor stated there is nothing new to report for Upper Pottsgrove Township.

West Pottsgrove Township

Mr. Whitlock noted there is nothing new to report for West Pottsgrove Township.

11. School District Updates

Boyertown Area

No one was present.

Owen J. Roberts

No one was present.

Pottsgrove

No one was present.

Pottstown

Ms. Lampe noted that Pottstown will be starting their activities tomorrow night.

13. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

14. Adjournment

Mr. Whitlock moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m. Mr. Roland seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie L. Frisco
Recording Secretary